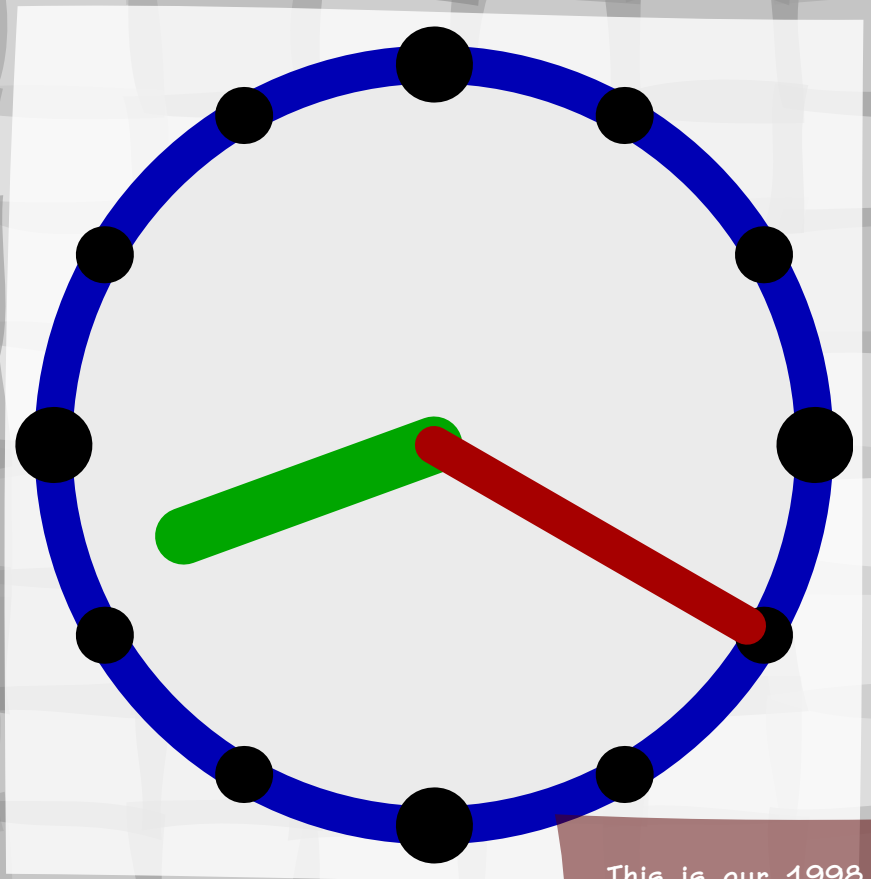
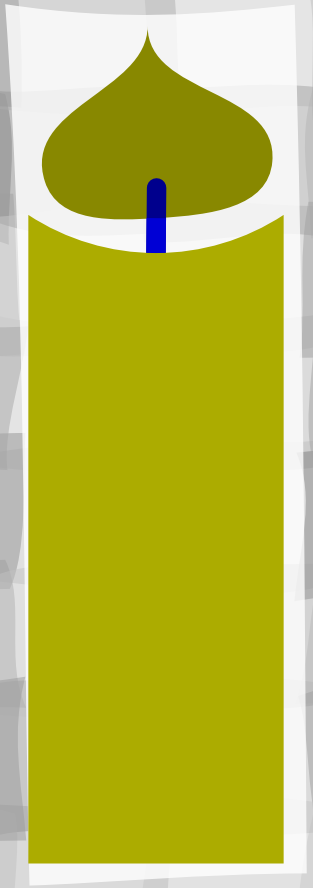
MetaPost Graphics

Once upon a time we started using METAPOST, the graphic companion to TEX. Since then it has been our main tool for making graphics. Welcome to our little showcase. You can click on the graphic to show the real thing.

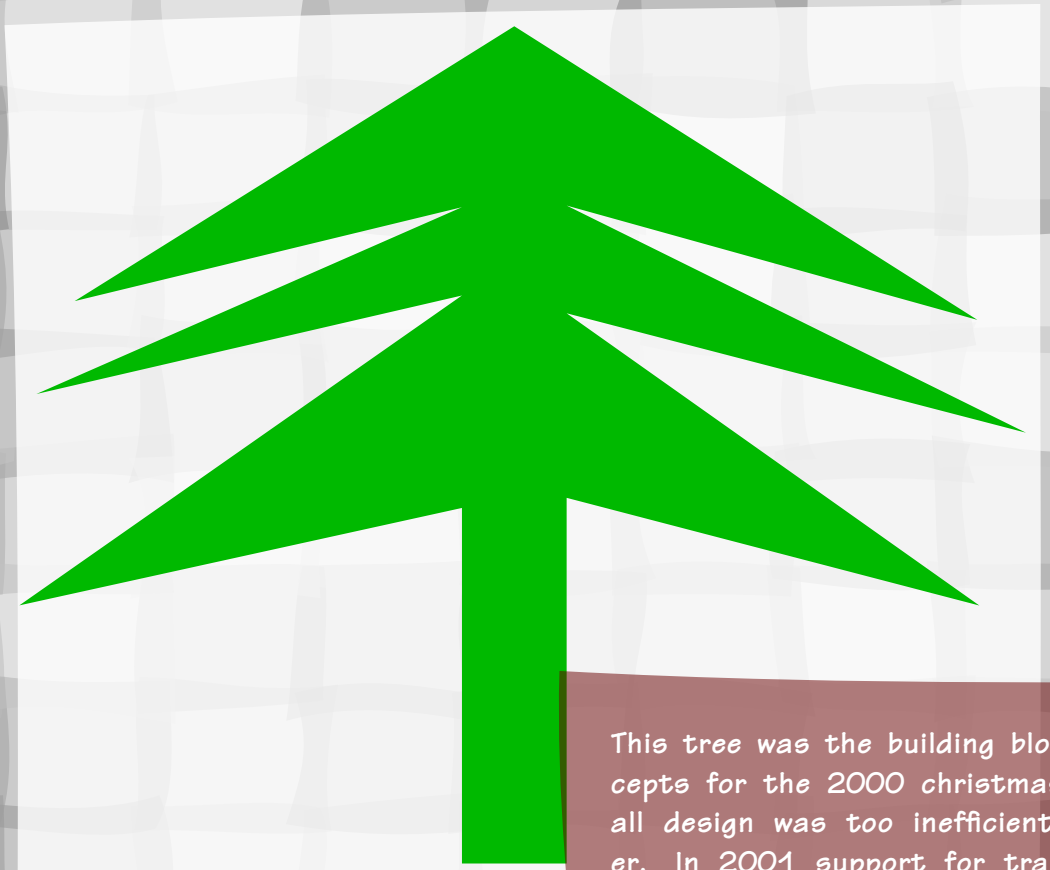


This is our 1998 christmas card graphic. It visualizes the count down to the millenium. It's a real count down: there are 12×60 clocks.

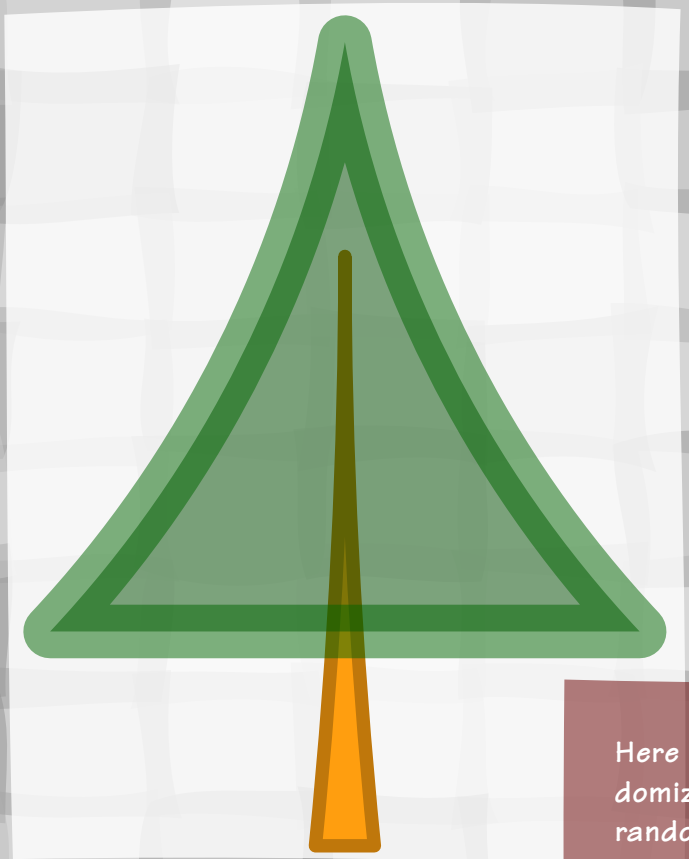


This candle is the basis for the 1999 christmas card. We let METAPOST generate 100 different candles and let TEX treat each candle as a word. So, the core of the card is just a typeset pararaph of graphics. Each card itself was different.

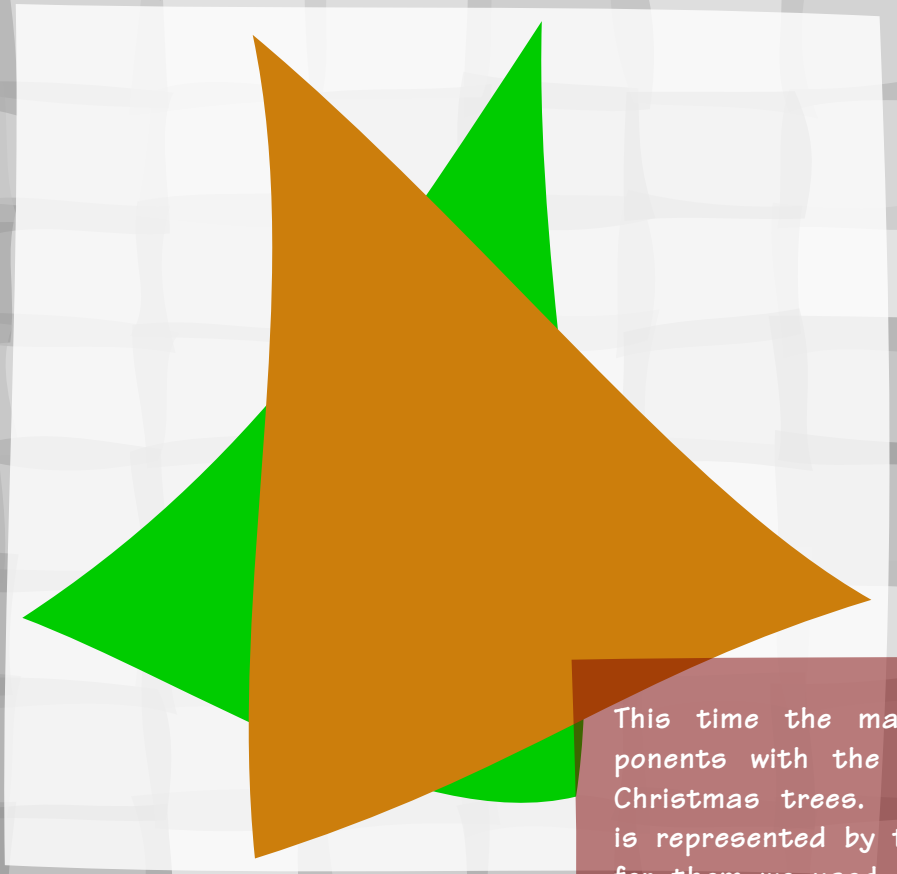
Many of the graphics made at Pragma ADE have one thing in common: randomness. This is also true for the 2000 christmas card, which shows 2001 stars in our company's color.



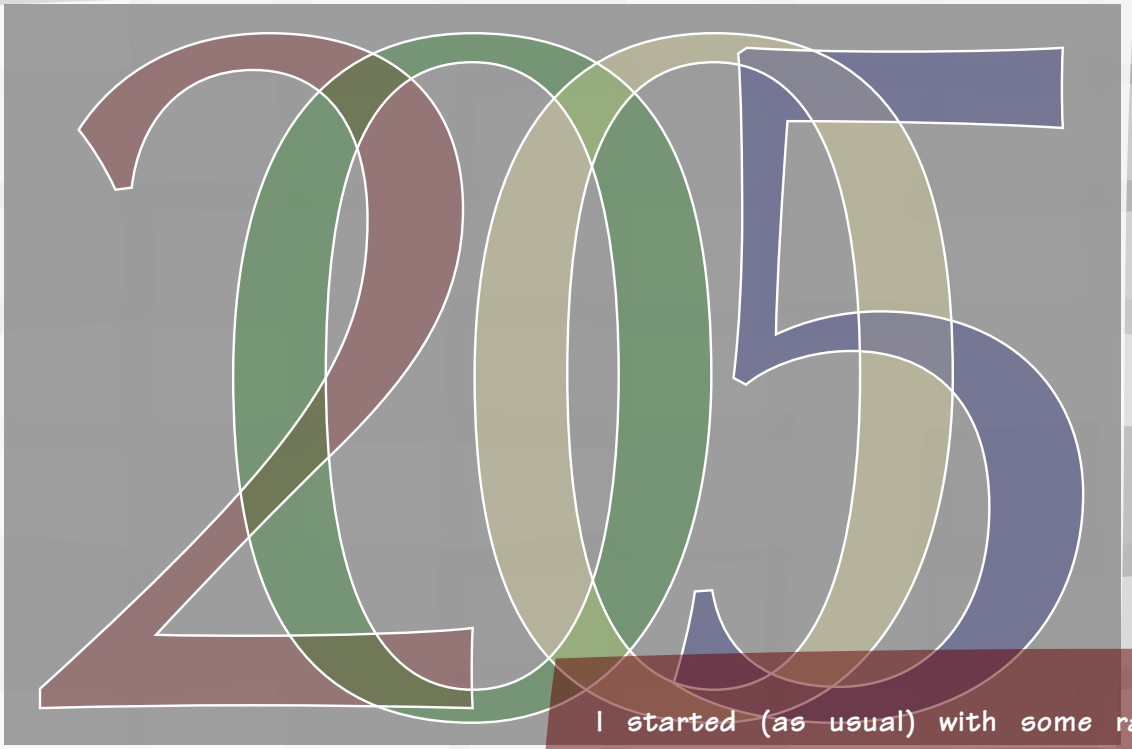
This tree was the building block of one of the concepts for the 2000 christmas card, but the overall design was too inefficient for an inkjet printer. In 2001 support for transparency was added to ConTEXt, so we gave this tree another chance. Instead of random green colors, we now use the colors of the dutch flag.



Here is another christmas tree. This time we randomize the trunk and body out of needles. The randomization takes place within predefined shapes. The composition is made out of three times 2003 needles, wood chips and snowflakes. Of course each card is unique.

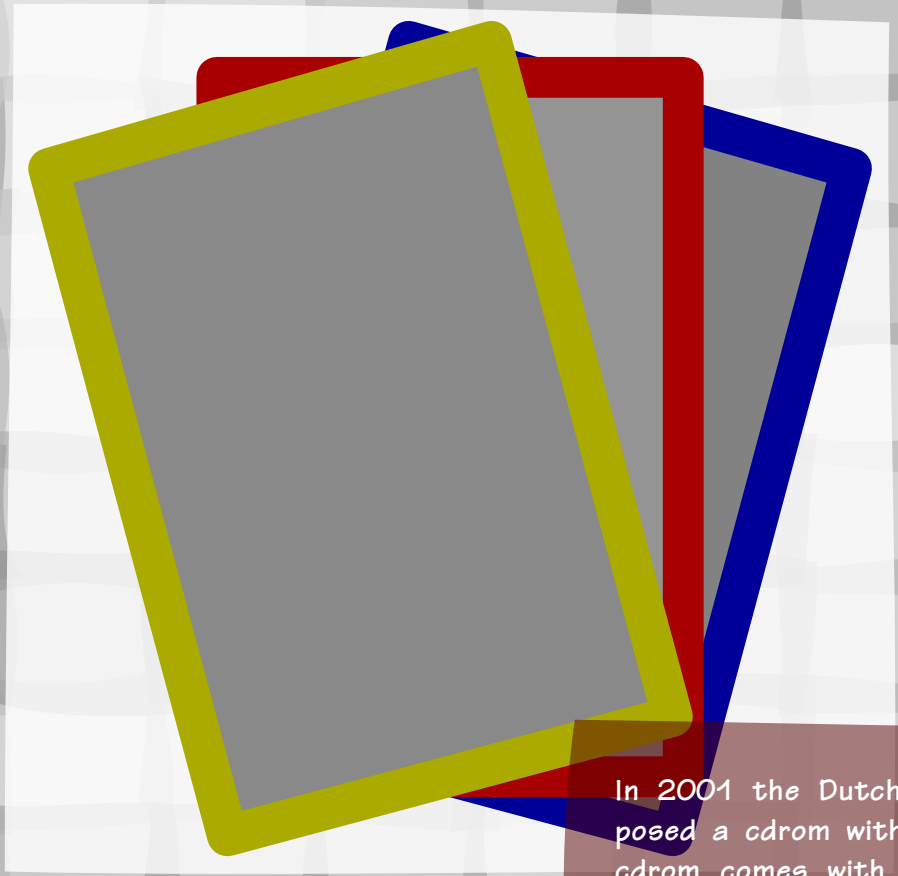


This time the main picture counts 2000 components with the triangular shape familiar from Christmas trees. The 4th year of the millenium is represented by the four shapes below the text; for them we used our company colors. If you look for a long time to graphics like this, you imagine seeing patterns in what actually is a random graphic.

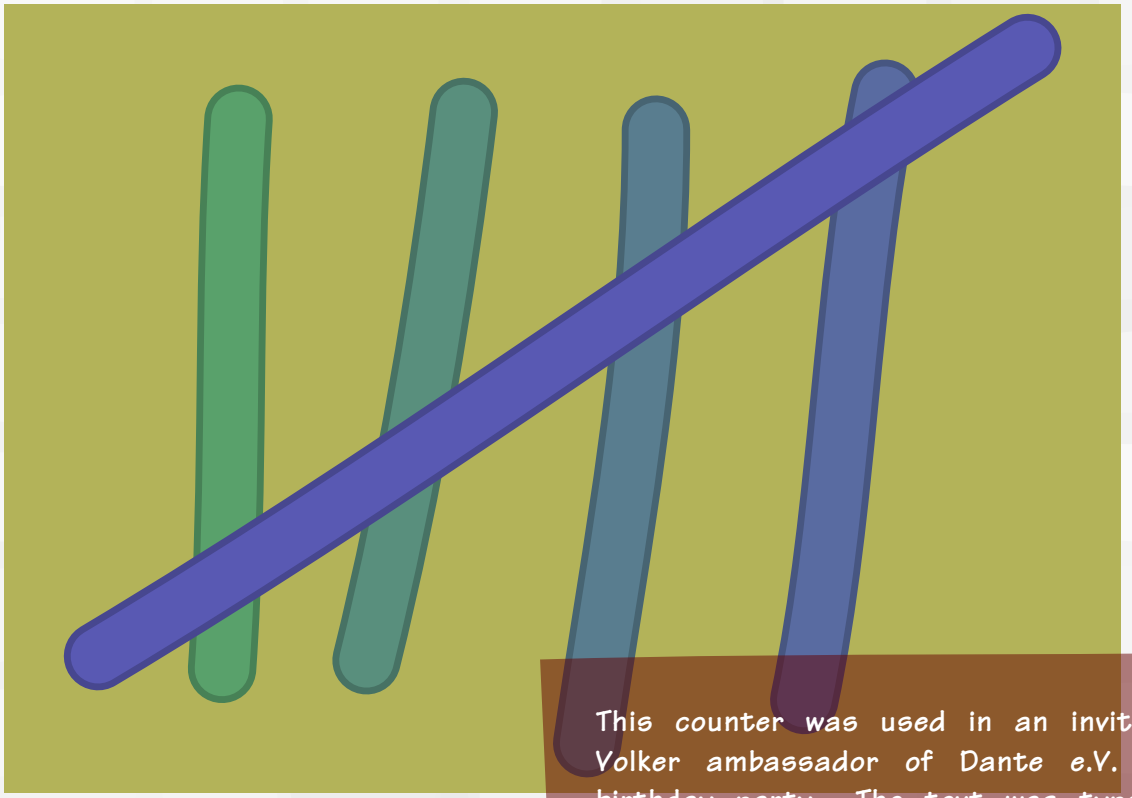


I started (as usual) with some random graphic, this time using the Hermann Zapf's Optima Nova font. Lack of space for detail made me drop that variant and stick to simple transformations. This font is one of the most beautiful font design I know. Optima Nova also translates well into a happy new year wish.

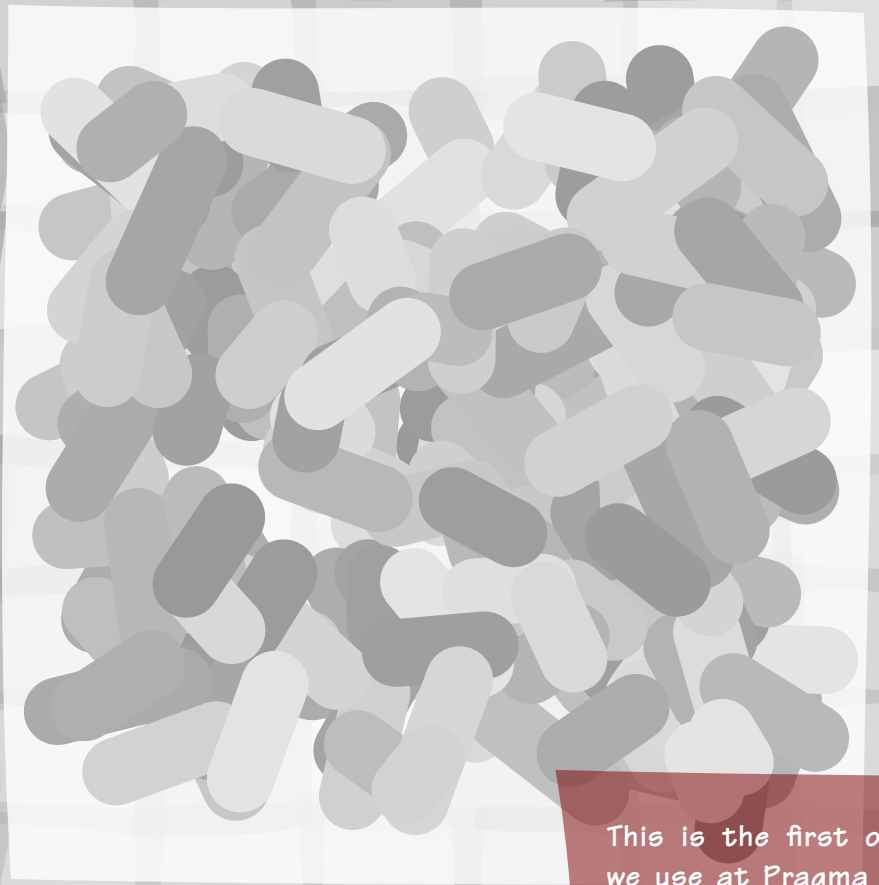
This time we show all the roman numerals I-MMV as one long sequence, typeset in a square paragraph with linebreaks chosen in such a way that we get a full block of text. A typical TEX job. Here we show the version with Hermann Zapfs brand new Palatino Nova, but the card itself was done in Optima Nova with HZ optimization.



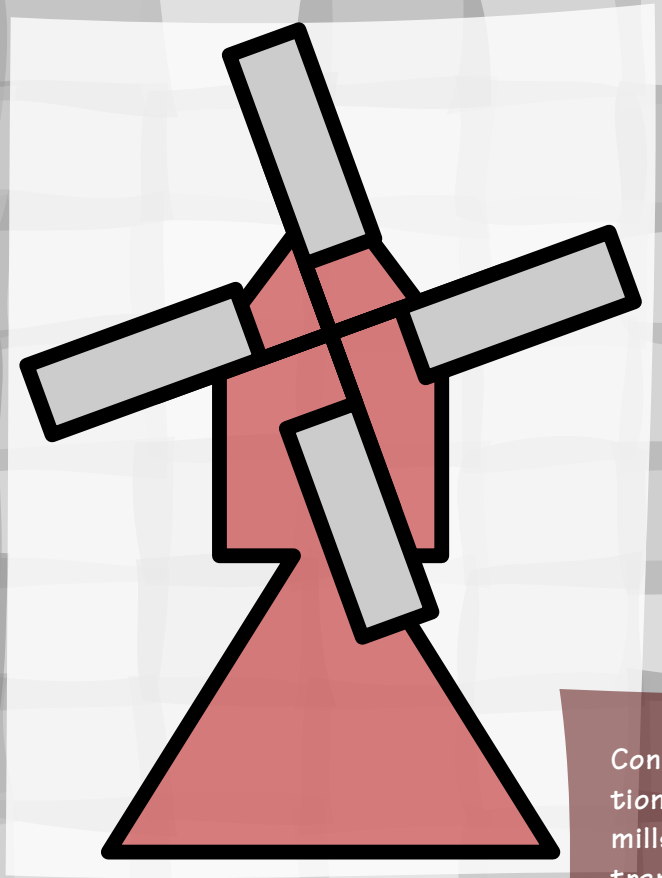
In 2001 the Dutch Speaking TEX User group composed a cdrom with all issues of their journal. The cdrom comes with abstracts and an index in the form of an interactive pdf document. Here you see how the cdrom looked like.



This counter was used in an invitation card for Volker ambassador of Dante e.V. Schaa's 50th birthday party. The text was typeset in Palatino, one of Zapfs fonts, Hermann Zapf being one of Volkers favorite designers. Each invitation was unique due to METAPOST random generator. The colors run from greenish to blueish if fifty steps.

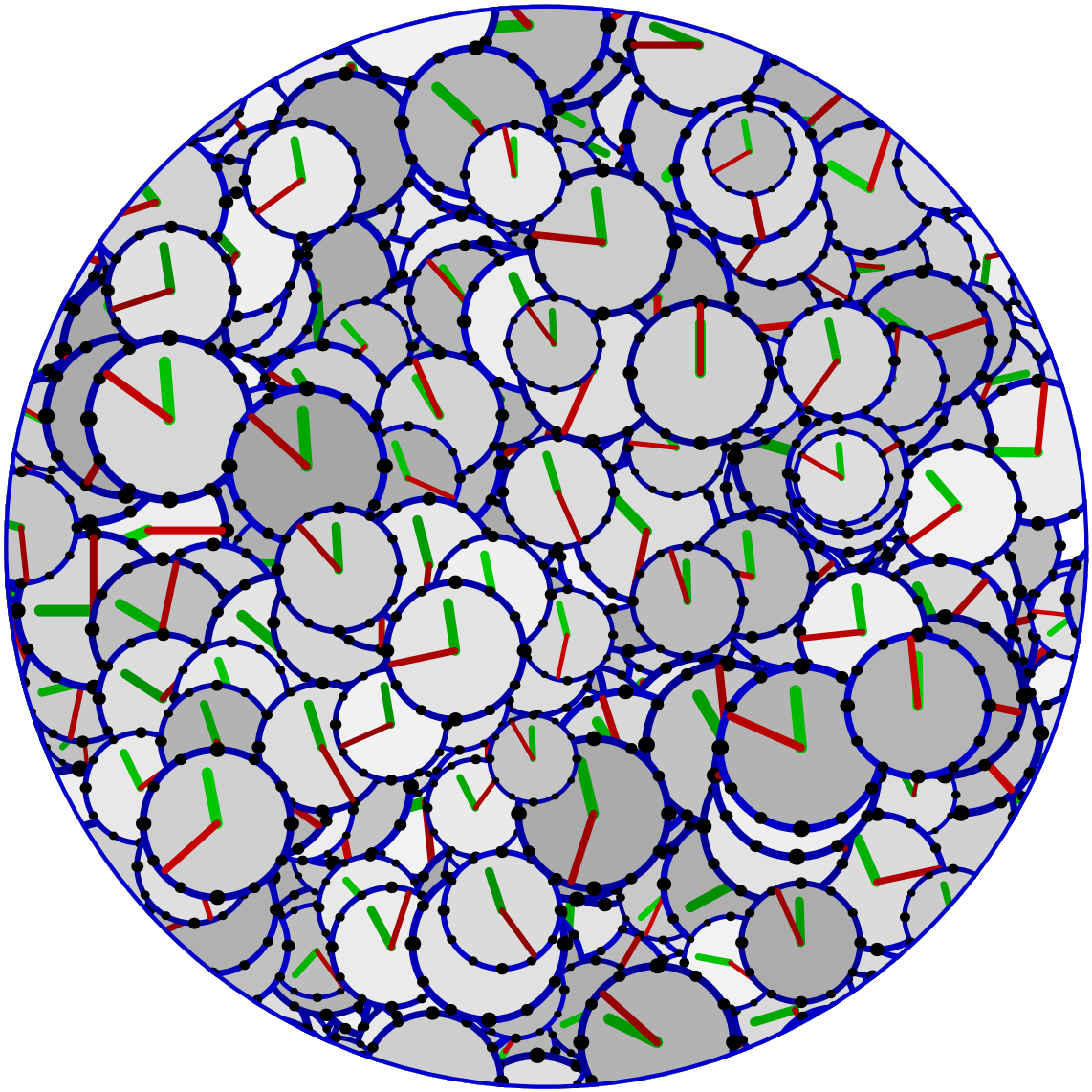


This is the first of a series of cdrom covers that we use at Pragma ADE. A certain amount of simple manual labour is compensated by the complicated graphic.



ConTEXt comes from the Netherlands, and traditionally this small country is associated with wind mills. These look like this. We use quote some transparencies here so you can imagine that it takes some time to render this picture on a printer.

Het grote aftellen begint. Nog ruim 350 keer



klokje rond. Wij wensen u een vrolijk 1999,

zonder al te veel aftelproblemen. Pragma

ADE, Ridderstraat 27, 8061GH Hasselt NL.

Een ding is zeker,
tijdens de overgang
naar het nieuwe
millennium zullen
bij ons de kaarsen
blijven branden.

Wij wensen u een
goede 21e eeuw toe.

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8061GH Hasselt NL

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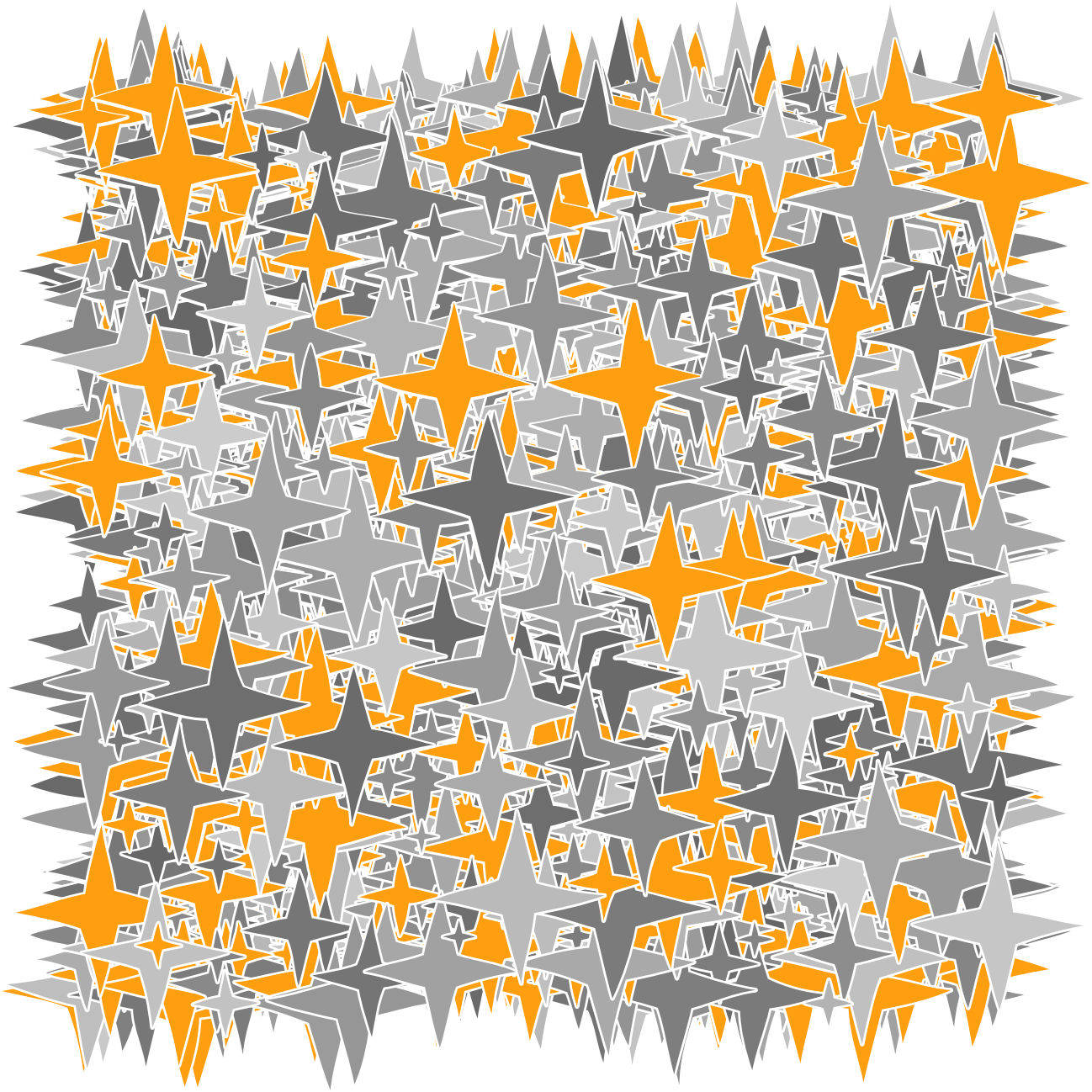
www.pragma-ade.nl



Wij wensen u
een sterk 2001!

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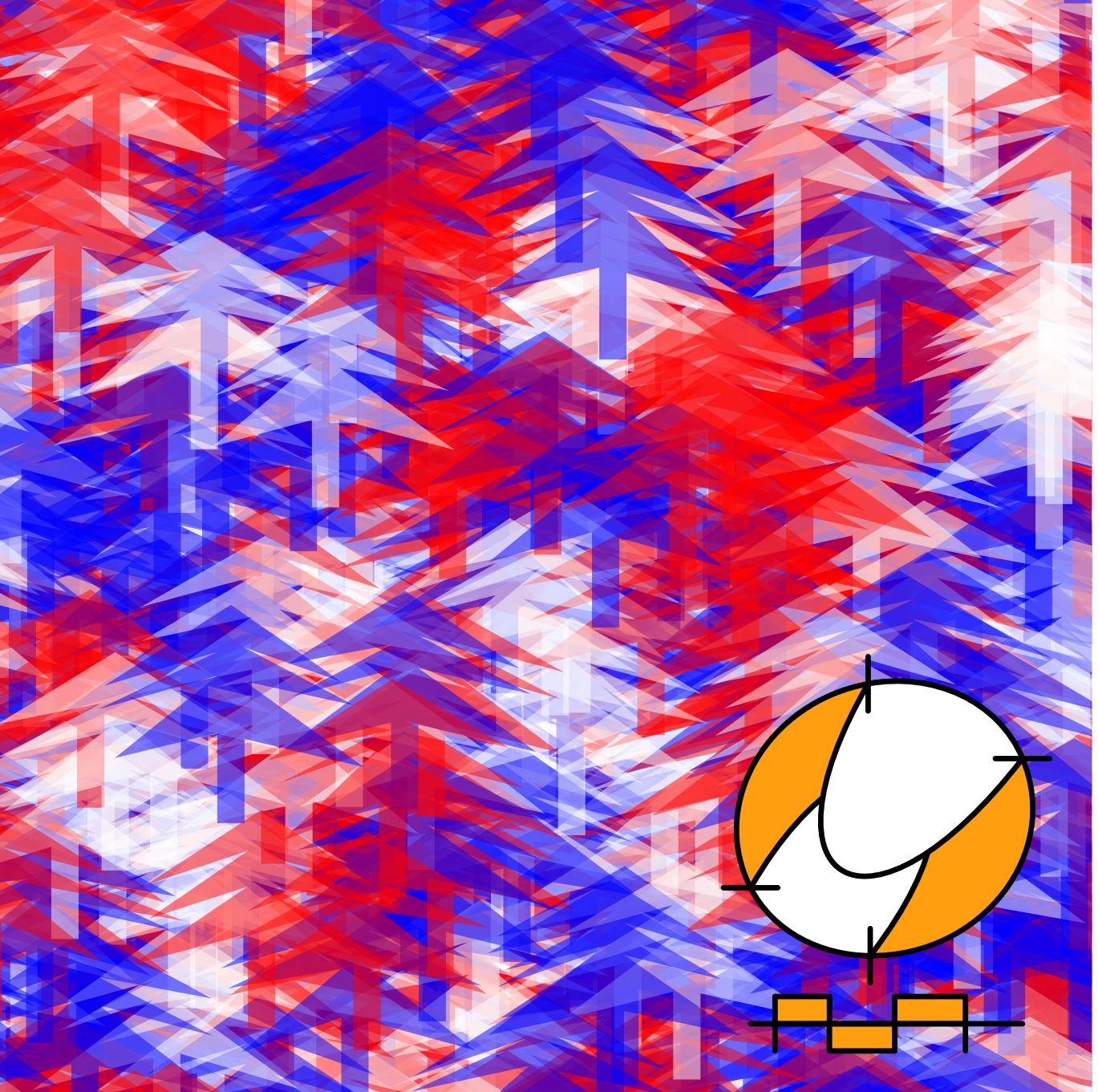

Wij hopen dat u in
2002 door de bomen
het bos blijft zien!

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Wij wensen u
een prettig en
gezond 2003.

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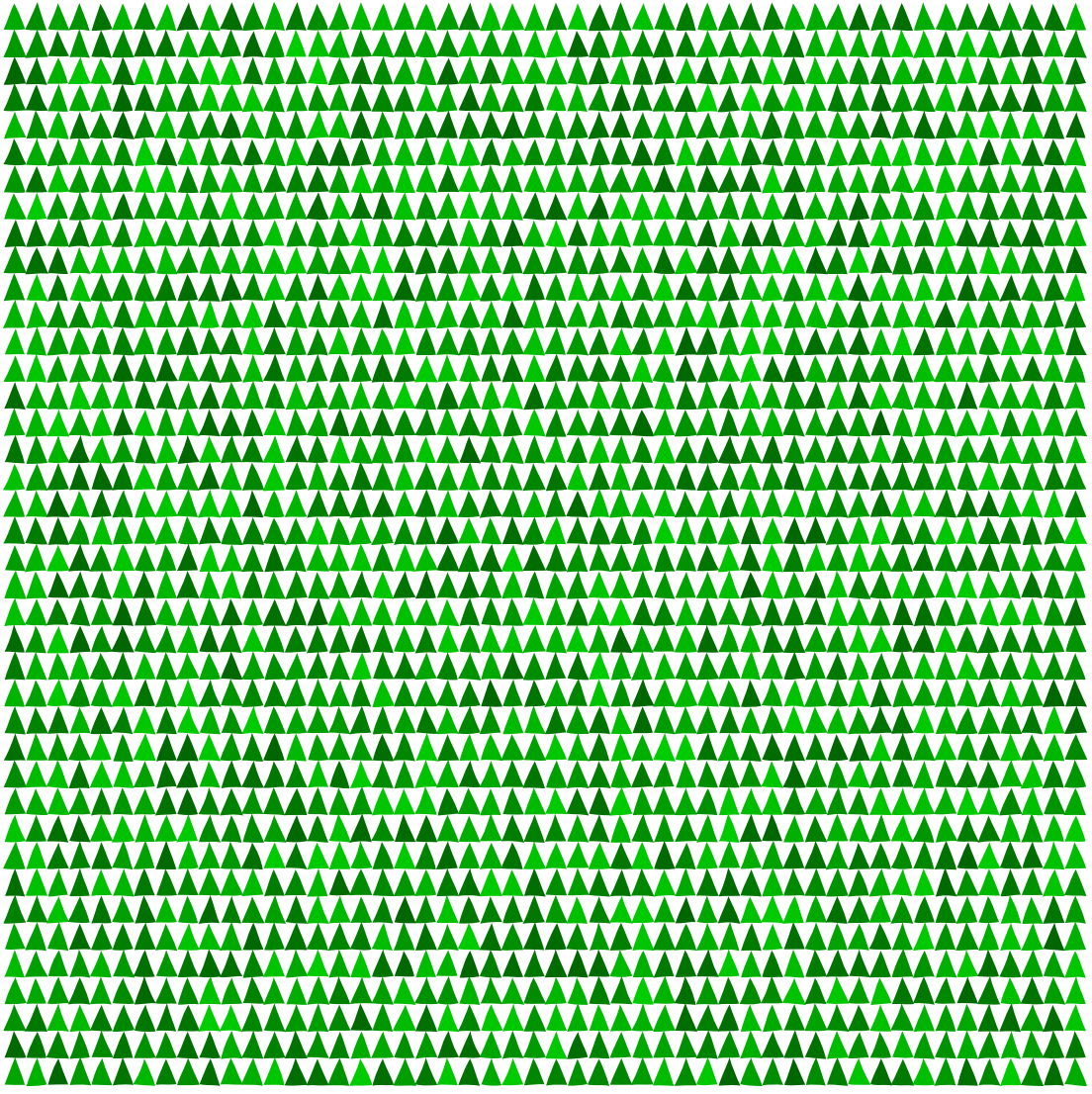

Wij wensen u
een gezond
en voorspoedig

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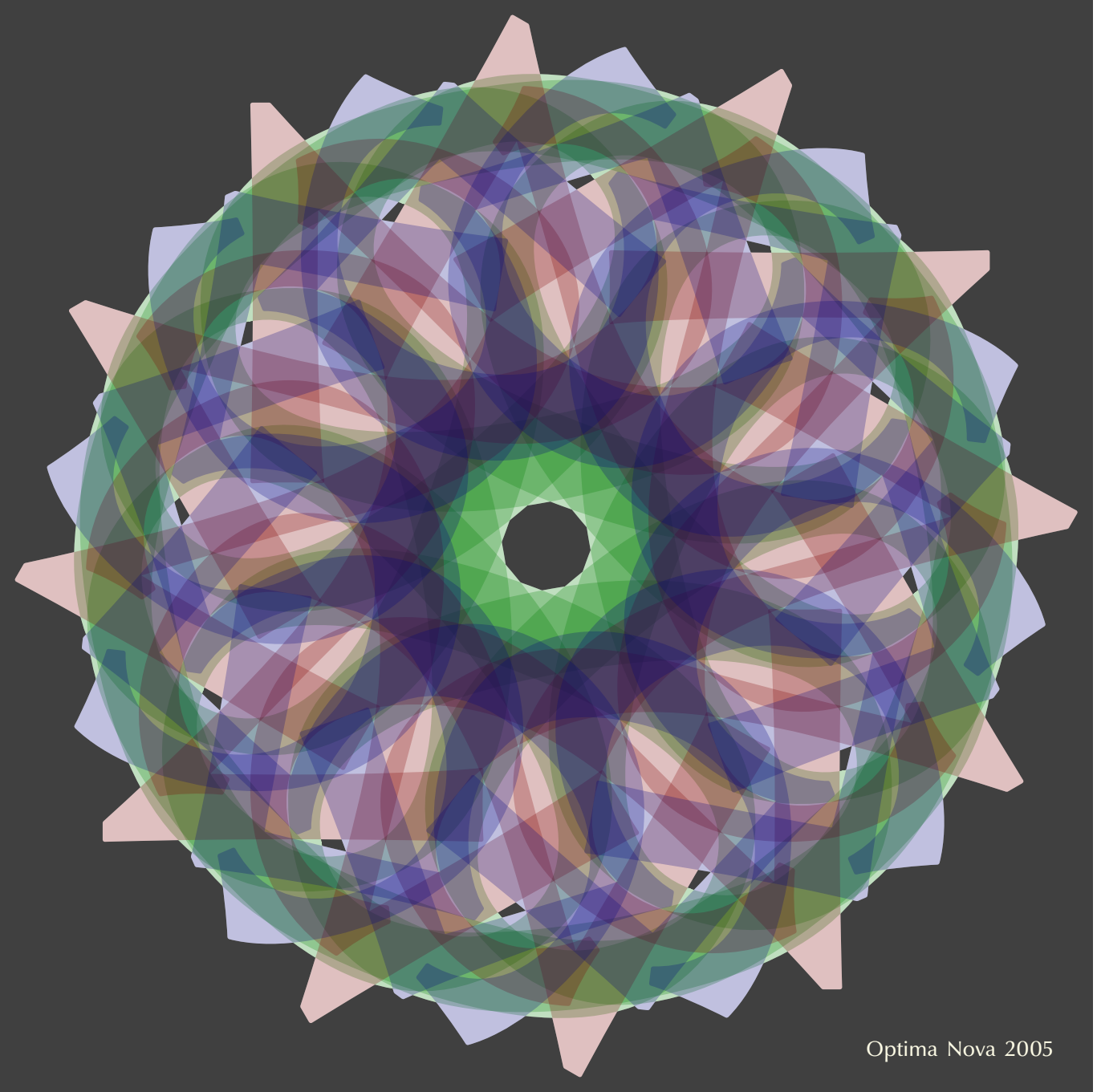
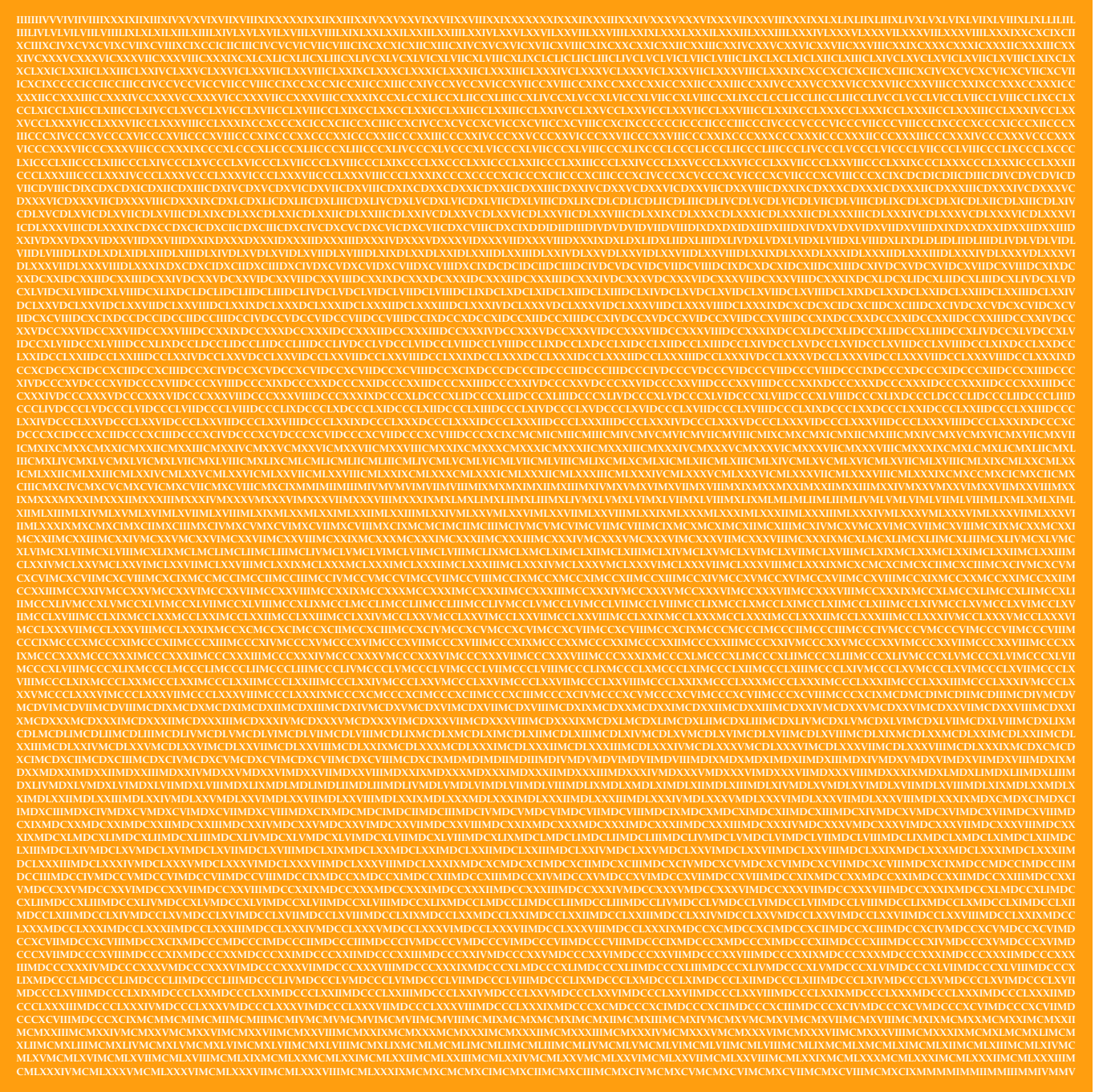


Wij wensen u
een optimaal
nieuw jaar.

Hans Hagen
Ton Otten

www.pragma-ade.com



Wij wensen u
een prettig
MMVI.

Hans Hagen
Ton Otten

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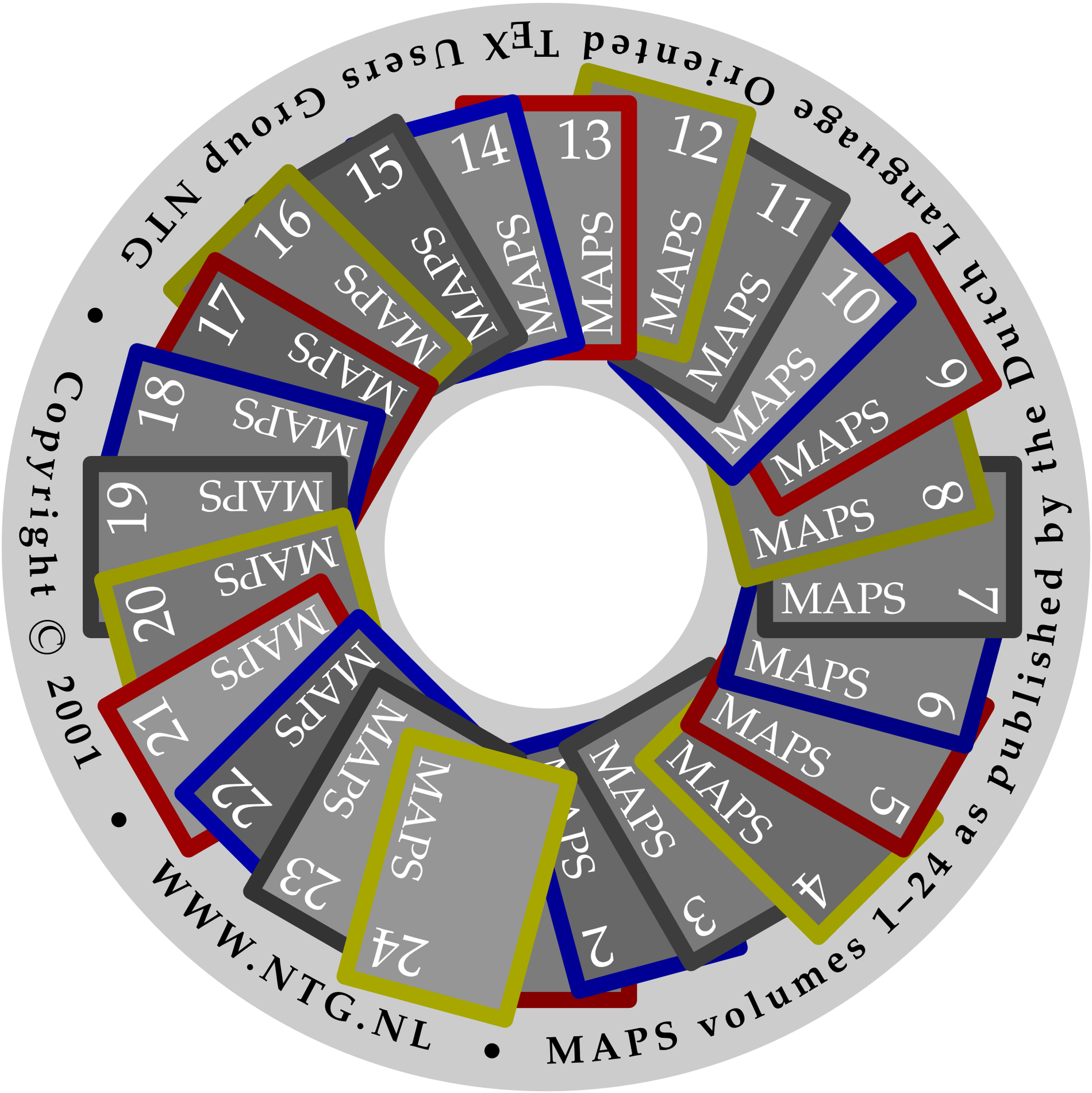
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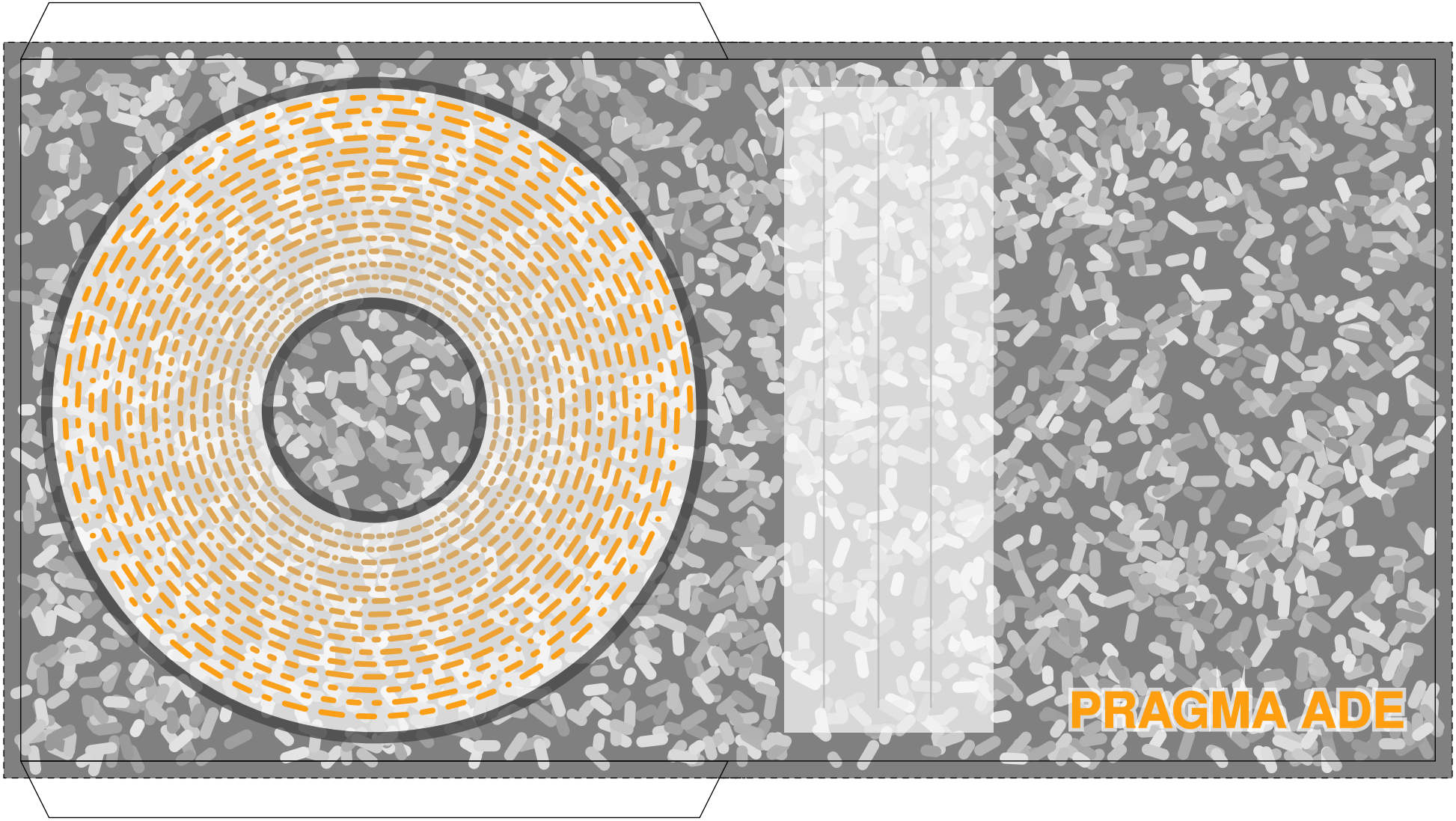
Es ist so weit: ich werde 50! • Das ist Grund genug zu feiern und zwar bei einem französischen Essen • Am Samstag, dem 18. Mai 2002 ab 18:00 Uhr beim STADT-KOCH Heidelbergerstraße 105 in Darmstadt • Ich freue mich, wenn Ihr kommt • Bitte sagt mir bis zum 7. April Bescheid • Herzliche Grüße, Euer Volker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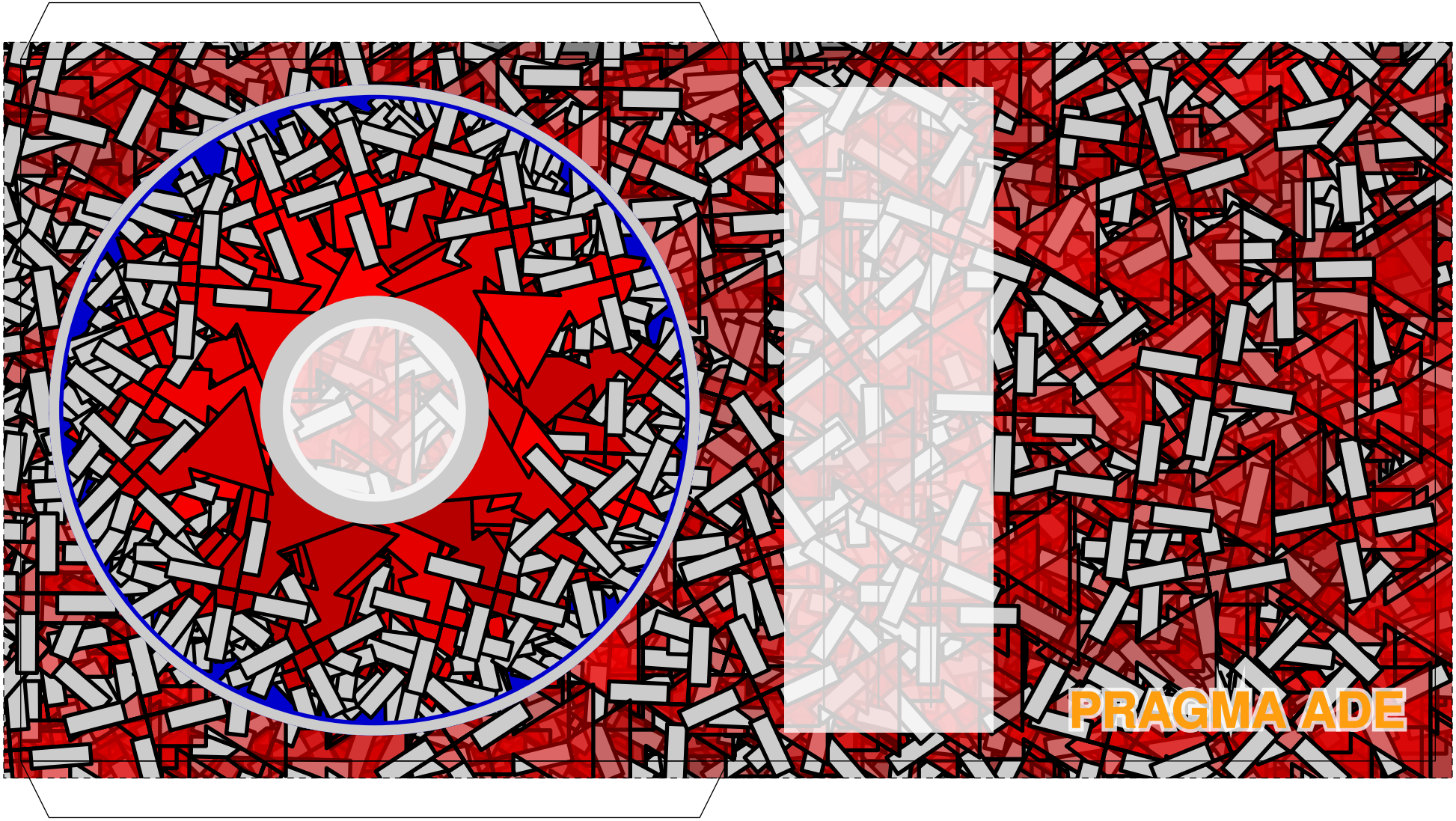
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